FILE NO. H350/1/3

PART NO.

ORIGINAL CATEGORY.

PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT.

# TOP SECRET

TO BE PASSED BY HAND

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

SUBJECT. IRAQ –

POLITICAL REPORTS

RELATED PAPERS.

| Folio No. | Referred to. | Clearing Officer's Initials. | Date Cleared. | Folio No. | Referred to. | Clearing Officer's Initials. | Date Cleared. | Folio No. | Referred to. | Clearing Officer's Initials. | Date Cleared. |
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National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

TJC:AC

H 350/1/3.

~~H 350/1/3~~

19th November, 1948.

TOP SECRET

Dear Price,

I am in receipt of your letter of 18th November, 1948, referring to a recent approach from the Regent of Iraq regarding the concerting of military plans against a possible outbreak of war.

The information is being conveyed to the appropriate authorities and attention is being drawn to its highly secret nature.

Yours sincerely,

F. STRAHAN

C.R. Price, Esq., C.M.G.,
Office of the High Commissioner for
the United Kingdom,
CANBERRA A.C.T.

7

T/S L. W. Strahan
in confirming

TJC. 22.11.48

19/11

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

PRIME MINISTER'S DEPT.
19 NOV 1948
No. M.41/1/3

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM
CANBERRA

18th November, 1948.

P.H.

TOP SECRET.

Dear Strahan,

I have been asked to pass informally to the Australian Government the information given below on the subject of a recent approach from the Regent of Iraq regarding the concerting of military plans against a possible outbreak of war. The highly secret nature of this information will of course be appreciated.

"(1) On the 12th October the Regent of Iraq suggested to His Majesty's Ambassador, Baghdad, that we should now concert our military plans against a possible outbreak of war. His approach followed on the announcement of staff arrangements which have been agreed in Western Europe.

(2) The Iraqi Delegate to the United Nations had approached the Foreign Secretary earlier with a message that the Government and people of Iraq were most anxious to strengthen the ties of friendship with the United Kingdom. The appointment of Shakir al Wadi to the Iraqi Ministry of Defence will probably also lead to increased Iraqi interest in joint defence arrangements (see the Secretary of State's telegram, 28th October, H. No. 277 Saving).

(3) The United Kingdom Government feel that these approaches are interesting and to some extent encouraging. At the same time they foresee difficulties in dealing with them while Palestine is on the agenda of the United Nations Assembly and while Iraqi troops remain in Palestine. Moreover, in the course of any discussions on defence, the difficult question of the supply of arms would certainly arise.

(4) In these circumstances His Majesty's Ambassador has been instructed to inform the Regent that the United Kingdom authorities are glad to know that he is thinking of our common defence interests at this critical time. They are convinced of the need for common defence problems to be frankly discussed between the Arab States /and the

F. Strahan, Esq., C.V.O., C.B.E.,
Prime Minister's Department,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

Copy P.M. (copies) Min. Dept Defence
Min. E.A. 19 NOV 1948

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM
CANBERRA



and the United Kingdom, but find it difficult to see what practical steps can be taken while the Palestine question is in such an acute stage and wonder whether the Regent has taken full account of the difficulties which might arise in the attempt to arrange joint defence planning at the present time. It may be easier to secure our joint objective when the Palestine question has progressed nearer to a settlement. The United Kingdom authorities will nevertheless be extremely glad to consider any concrete proposals which the Regent may have to make."

Yours sincerely,

C R Price

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

COPY TJC:AC

P.M. File No. M.41/1/3

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CANBERRA.

18th November, 1948.

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F. Strahan, Esq., C.V.O., C.B.E.,
Prime Minister's Department,
CANBERRA A.C.T.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) C. R. Price.

.....Ack'd.....

COPY: Prime Minister
Min. & Dept. Defence (Ref.)
E.A. (Ref.)

COPY FOR THE PRIME MINISTER.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

COPY TJC:AC

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(Sgd.) C. R. Price.

J. Strahan. Esq. CVO., CBE.

.....Ackd.....

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Min. & Dept. Defence (Ref.)
N.A. (Ref.)

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

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COPY TJC:AC

P.M. File No. M.41/1/3

Office of the High Commissioner
for the United Kingdom,
CANBERRA.

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J. Strahan. Esq. CVO, CBE.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) C. R. Price.

.....ick'd.....

COPY: Prime Minister
Min. & Dept. Defence (Ref.)
N.A. (Ref.)

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

Enclosure to Circular Despatch D Wop.

- 5 FEB 1948
No. M41/1/3

DRAFT ANGLO-IRAQI TREATY (9.1.48).

PREAMBLE.

His Majesty the King of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas

and His Majesty the King of Iraq.

Animated by the most sincere desire to consolidate the friendship and good relations which exist between them and to establish these relations on foundations more suited to the development of this friendship;

Desiring to conclude a new treaty of alliance with the object of consolidating the friendly relations which exist between them and of strengthening by cooperation and mutual assistance the contribution which each of them will be able to make to the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the provisions and principles of the Charter of the United Nations:

Have accordingly appointed as their plenipotentiaries

His Majesty the King of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (hereinafter referred to as His Britannic Majesty)

A. B.

His Majesty the King of Iraq

C. D.

who, having exhited their full powers, found in good and due form.

Have agreed as follows:-

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ARTICLE I.

There shall be perpetual peace and friendship between His Britannic Majesty and His Majesty The King of Iraq.

A close alliance shall continue between the High Contracting Parties in consecration of their friendship, their cordial understanding and their good relations.

Each of the High Contracting Parties undertakes not to adopt in foreign countries an attitude which is inconsistent with the alliance or might create difficulties for the other party thereto.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ARTICLE 2.

Should any dispute between either High Contracting Party and a third party produce a situation which involves the risk of a rupture with that State, the High Contracting Parties will concert together with a view to the settlement of the said dispute by peaceful means in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of any other international obligations which may be applicable to the case.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ARTICLE 3.

Should either High Contracting Party, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2 of the present Treaty, become engaged in war, the other High Contracting Party will subject always to the provisions of Article 4 of the present Treaty, immediately come to his aid as a measure of collective defence.

In the event of an imminent menace of hostilities the High Contracting Parties will immediately concert together the necessary measures of defence.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ARTICLE 4.

Nothing in the present Treaty is intended to or shall in any way prejudice the rights and obligations which devolve or may devolve, upon either of the High Contracting Parties under the Charter of the United Nations or under any other existing international agreements, conventions or treaties.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ARTICLE 5.

The present Treaty, of which the Annexure is an integral part, shall replace the Treaty of Alliance signed at Bagdad on the third day of June, one thousand nine hundred and thirty of the Christian Era, corresponding to the fourth day of Safar, one thousand three hundred and forty-nine Hajrah, together with the Annexure, all letters and notes interpreting or otherwise exchanged in 1930 or 1931 in connexion therewith, and the Railway Agreement signed at Bagdad on March 31st, 1936, which shall cease to have effect upon the entry into force of the present Treaty. The above is without prejudice to any financial obligations which have already accrued under the Treaty of 1930, any such letters or notes and the Railway Agreement of 1936.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ARTICLE 6.

Should any difference arise relative to the Application or interpretation of this Treaty, and should the High Contracting Parties fail to settle such difference by direct negotiation, the difference shall be referred to the international Court of Justice unless the parties agree to another mode of settlement.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ARTICLE 7.

The present Treaty shall be ratified and shall come into force upon the exchange of instruments of ratification, which shall take place as soon as possible. It shall remain in force for a period of 20 years from the date of its coming into force. At any time after 15 years from the date of coming into force of this Treaty, the High Contracting Parties may, at the request of either of them, negotiate for its revision which shall provide for the continued co-operation of the High Contracting Parties in the defence of their common interests. The period of 15 years shall be reduced if a complete system of security agreements under Article 43 of the Charter of the United Nations is concluded before the expiry of 15 years.

At the end of 20 years, if the present treaty has not been revised, it shall remain in force until the expiry of one year after notice of termination has been given by one High Contracting Party to the other through the diplomatic channel.

In faith whereof the respective plenipotentiaries have signed the present Treaty and have affixed thereto their Seals.

Done in duplicate at London.
This.....
of the Christian Era.
Corresponding to the.....

Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE I.

(a) The High Contracting Parties recognize the importance of air bases as an essential element in the defence of Iraq itself and of international security and as a link in the essential communications of both parties. They agree moreover that, in the common interests of both of them, His Britannic Majesty must be in a position to discharge his obligations under Article 3 of the Treaty.

(b) In the event of either High Contracting Party becoming involved in war, or of a menace of hostilities, His Majesty The King of Iraq will invite His Britannic Majesty to bring immediately to Iraq the necessary forces of all arms and will furnish to His Britannic Majesty on Iraqi territory all the facilities and assistance in his power, including the use of railways, rivers, ports, aerodromes and lines of communication on the same financial terms as those applicable to the forces of His Majesty the King of Iraq.

(c) To maintain the Iraqi bases at Habbaniya and Shaiba at all times, whether of peace or of war, in the necessary state of operational efficiency, His Britannic Majesty will provide at these bases the necessary technical staff, installations and equipment, and subject to paragraph (e) of Article 2 below will meet the cost of such maintenance. No use shall be made of these two air bases for civil aviation except on the recommendation of the Joint Defence Board referred to in Article 5 of this Annexure. In the event of such use being so recommended, the financial provisions of Article 2 of this Annexure will be revised.

(d) Until such time as Peace Treaties have entered into force with all ex-enemy countries, His Majesty the King of Iraq grants to operational units of the Air Forces of His Britannic Majesty free access to and use of the two air bases referred to in (c) above, it being understood that the Peace Treaties are to be deemed to be fully in force when the Allied Forces are withdrawn from the territories of all ex-enemy states.

After such time as the Peace Treaties have fully entered into force, His Majesty the King of Iraq may invite such units to use the bases on the advice of the Joint Defence Board, in the light of circumstances then prevailing.

(e) His Majesty The King of Iraq agrees moreover to permit aircraft of His Britannic Majesty in transit across Iraq freely to use the air bases of Habbaniya and Shaiba.

(f) The Air Bases of Habbaniya and Shaiba shall be used jointly and in co-operation by the Royal Iraqi Air Force and such units of the Air Forces of His Britannic Majesty as may be disposed there, ~~in accordance with (c) and (d) above.~~

(g) His Britannic Majesty shall not be called upon to pay any charges in respect of the use of any other landing grounds in Iraq by his air forces.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ANNEXURE - RTICLE 2.

(a) His Majesty The King of Iraq will provide at his expense the forces necessary for the guarding of the air bases at Habbaniya and Shaiba.

(b) Day-to-day operation of the bases and their security arrangements shall be mutually arranged between the Iraqi and British Commanding Officers, who will each retain the final responsibility for the movement of the units of his own country.

(c) The administration of the units of each country, including accommodation arrangements, shall be separate except where it is decided to pool resources.

(d) His Majesty The King of Iraq and His Britannic Majesty will each meet the cost of supplies and services furnished to his own air forces visiting or present at the two bases.

(e) His Majesty The King of Iraq will pay the cost of maintenance of all buildings and installations at the two air bases exclusively occupied by or erected for the Iraqi forces. Each of the High Contracting Parties will pay the cost of new buildings provided for the sole use of his own forces.

(f) The allocation of existing installations and buildings at the airbases will be decided by the Joint Defence Board. His Majesty The King of Iraq may purchase the installations and buildings allotted to the Iraq forces at a fair valuation. On the final evacuation of British forces, the Iraq Government shall either themselves take over such buildings and permanent structures at the bases, as have not previously been purchased, at a fair valuation having regard to the use to which they have been put, or shall afford such facilities as may reasonably be necessary to enable the Government of the United Kingdom to dispose thereof to the best advantage.

(g) His Britannic Majesty shall not be liable for any Iraqi rates and taxes in respect of the air bases or any buildings and installations therein.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ANNEXURE ARTICLE 3

In order that the air forces of the High Contracting Parties should attain the necessary efficiency in co-operation with each other:

(i) His Britannic Majesty offers all appropriate facilities at Royal Air Forces air fields in the United Kingdom and in any British colony or protectorate administered by the United Kingdom as may be required by the Royal Iraqi Air Force. In particular, His Britannic Majesty offers to make available to the personnel of the Royal Iraqi Air Force the facilities of the armament training centres of the Royal Air Force in the Middle East.

(ii) His Britannic Majesty will make available operational units of his forces to engage in joint training operations of the Iraqi Air Forces for a sufficient period in each year.

(iii) His Majesty the King of Iraq will make available facilities at air bases in Iraq necessary for the purposes of this joint training.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 4.

(a) All Iraqi units at bases in Iraq or in the United Kingdom and any British colony or protectorate administered by the United Kingdom, whether stationed or in transit, shall be under Iraqi command.

(b) Similarly, all British units shall be under British command.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 5

In the common defence interests of the United Kingdom and Iraq a permanent joint advisory body will be set up immediately on the entry into force of this Treaty to coordinate defence matters between the Government of the United Kingdom and the Iraqi Government within the scope of this Treaty.

This body, which will be known as the Anglo-Iraqi Joint Defence Board, will be composed of competent Military representatives of the two Governments in equal numbers, and its functions will include:-

(a) The formulation of agreed plans in the strategic interests common to both countries.

(b) Immediate consultation on the threat of war.

(c) The coordination of measures to enable the forces of either High Contracting Party to fulfil their obligations under Article 3 of the Treaty.

(d) Consultation regarding the training of the Iraqi Forces and the provision of equipment for them. The J.D.B. shall submit annual reports thereon and recommendations to the Governments of the two High Contracting Parties.

(e) Arrangements regarding the joint training operations referred to in Article 3 of this Annexure.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 6.

His Majesty The King of Iraq agrees to afford in case of need, and on request, all necessary facilities for the movement of units of His Britannic Majesty's Forces in transit across Iraq, with their supplies and equipment, on the same financial terms as those applicable to the forces of His Majesty The King of Iraq.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 7

Subject to any modifications which the two High Contracting Parties may agree to introduce in the future, the Iraqi Government will continue to extend to the units of His Britannic Majesty's Forces disposed in Iraq in pursuance of the present Treaty, or otherwise by agreement between the High Contracting Parties, the immunities and privileges which they at present enjoy in jurisdictional and fiscal matters and the existing provisions of any local legislation affecting units of the armed forces of His Britannic Majesty in Iraq.

The privileges and immunities to be extended to units and personnel of the Royal Iraqi Air Force visiting or present in British territory shall be defined on a reciprocal basis.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 8.

His Britannic Majesty undertakes to grant whenever they may be required by His Majesty The King of Iraq all possible facilities in the following matters, the cost of which will be met by His Majesty The King of Iraq:-

(a) Naval, military and aeronautical instruction of Iraqi officers in the United Kingdom.

(b) The provision for the forces of His Majesty The King of Iraq of arms, ammunition, ships and aeroplanes of modern pattern such as are in current use by the forces of His Britannic Majesty on a priority which, having regard to the relative needs of each force, shall treat both forces equally.

(c) The provision of naval, military and air force officers to serve as instructors with the forces of His Majesty The King of Iraq.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 9.

In view of the desirability of identity in training and methods between his own forces and those of His Britannic Majesty, His Majesty The King of Iraq undertakes that, should he deem it necessary to have recourse to foreign military instructors, these shall be chosen from amongst British subjects.

He further undertakes that any personnel of his forces that may be sent abroad for military training will be sent to military schools, colleges and training centres in the territories of His Britannic Majesty, provided that this shall not prevent him from sending to any other country such personnel as cannot be received in the said institutions and training centres, or for courses not available in those territories.

He further undertakes that the armament and essential equipment of his forces shall not differ in type from those of the forces of His Britannic Majesty.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 10

His Majesty The King of Iraq undertakes to grant general permission to His Britannic Majesty's ships to visit the Shatt-al-Arab on the understanding that His Majesty the King of Iraq is given prior notification of visits to Iraqi ports.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

DRAFT LETTER FROM THE IRAQI PRIME MINISTER TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Portsmouth,
dated the 15th January,
1948.

Sir,

With reference to Article 4 of the Treaty signed today, I desire on behalf of my Government to state that the Covenant of the League of Arab States signed on the 22nd March 1945 and the Saadabad Pact between Iran, Iraq, Turkey and Afghanistan signed on July 8th 1937 are included amongst the existing International Agreements to which this Article refers and are Agreements to which in this connexion my Government attaches particular importance.

I have the honour, etc.

(sgd. Saleh Jabr)

The Right Honourable Ernest Bevin, P.C., M.P.,
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

REPLY FROM MR. BEVIN TO THE IRAQI PRIME MINISTER.

Portsmouth,
dated the 15th January, 1948

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter which reads as follows:

"With reference to Article 4 .....
..... particular importance."

I have the honour, etc.

(sgd. Ernest Bevin)

His Excellency Saiyid Saleh Jabr.
Prime Minister of Iraq.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

Portsmouth,
dated the 15th January, 1948.

Sir,

On the occasion of the signature of the Treaty of Alliance between Great Britain and Iraq, I have the honour to assure Your Excellency that, with a view to assisting the Iraqi Government in their desire to carry out extensive plans of economic and social development, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom will do all in their power to meet the requests of the Iraqi Government for the services of any experts or officials with technical qualifications of whom the Iraqi Government may stand in need

I have, etc.

(sgd. Ernest Bevin)

His Excellency Saiyid Saleh Jabr,
Prime Minister of Iraq.

Portsmouth,
dated the 15th January, 1948.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of today's date reading as follows:-

"On the occasion of the signature .....
..... may stand in need".

I have the honour etc.

(sgd. Saleh Jabr.)

The Right Honourable Ernest Bevin, P.C., M.P.,
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

Portsmouth,
dated the 15th January 1948.

Sir,

In connexion with the treaty signed by us today I desire on behalf of my Government to inform you that the military installations in the Basra area, built by the British forces during the War of 1939-45, specified below will be handed over free of charge to the Iraqi Government.

The following are the installations in question:-

1. Former British and Indian military hospitals in the Shaiba area known as Camp 57 and Camp 67.
2. Shaiba Water Supply Services, including Filtration Plant and Distribution System.
3. Shaiba Electric Power Station and Distribution System.
4. Telecommunications Systems in Shaiba, Ma'qil and 'Ashar area.

I have the honour etc.,

(Sgd. Ernest Bevin)

His Excellency
Saiyid Saleh Jabr,
Prime Minister of Iraq.

---

Portsmouth,
dated the 15th January 1948.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of today's date concerning certain military installations in the Basra area which His Britannic Majesty's Government intend to hand over free of cost to the Iraqi Government.

I have the honour to be,

(Sgd. Saleh Jabr)

Rt. Hon. Ernest Bevin, P.C., M.P.,
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

Enclosure to Circular Despatch I No 3.

DRAFT OF A REVISED ANGLO-IRAQI TREATY OF ALLIANCE.

Treaty of Alliance between His Britannic Majesty in respect of the United Kingdom and His Majesty The King of Iraq.

16 Feb 1948 DEPT. FEB 1949 M41/1/3

His Majesty The King of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas

and His Majesty the King of Iraq;

Desiring to consolidate the friendship and to maintain and perpetuate the relations of good understanding between their respective countries;

Whereas Article 11 of the Treaty of Alliance, signed at Bagdad on the thirtieth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and thirty of the Christian era, corresponding to the fourth day of Safar, one thousand three hundred and forty nine, Hijrah, provides that at any time after twenty years from the date of coming into force of that Treaty, the High Contracting Parties would, at the request of either of them, conclude a new Treaty which should provide for the continued maintenance and protection in all circumstances of the essential communications of His Britannic Majesty;

Considering that, although the said period of twenty years has not yet expired, it is now desirable to replace that Treaty by a new Treaty of Alliance concluded on terms of complete freedom, equality and independence;

Have accordingly appointed as their plenipotentiaries

His Majesty The King of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (hereinafter referred to as His Britannic Majesty)



National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

A. B.

H.M. The King of Iraq

C. D.

who, having exhibited their full powers, found in good and due form

Have agreed as follows:-



ational Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ARTICLE I.

There shall be perpetual peace and friendship between His Britannic Majesty and His Majesty The King of Iraq.

A close alliance shall continue between the High Contracting Parties in consecration of their friendship, their cordial understanding and their good relations, and there shall be full and frank consultation between them in all matters of foreign policy which may affect their common interests.

Each of the High Contracting Parties undertakes not to adopt in foreign countries an attitude which is inconsistent with the alliance or might create difficulties for the other party thereto.

ARTICLE 2.

Should any dispute between either High Contracting Party and a third party produce a situation which involves the risk of a rupture with that State, the High Contracting Parties will concert together with a view to the settlement of the said dispute by peaceful means in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of any other international obligations which may be applicable to the case.

ARTICLE 3.

The air base sites at Habbaniya and Shaiba are an integral and sovereign part of the Kingdom of Iraq. His Britannic Majesty agrees to forego the exclusive rights hitherto enjoyed by the forces of His Britannic Majesty at these bases.

ARTICLE 4.

Should either High Contracting Party, notwithstanding



National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

the provisions of Article 2 of the present Treaty, become engaged in war, the other High Contracting Party will, subject always to the provisions of Article 6 of the present Treaty, immediately come to his aid as a measure of collective defence.

In the event of an imminent menace of hostilities the High Contracting Parties will immediately concert together the necessary measures of defence.

ARTICLE 5.

The Provisions of this Treaty are completed by the Annexure, which is an integral part thereof.

ARTICLE 6.

Nothing in the present Treaty is intended to or shall in any way prejudice the rights and obligations which devolve, or may devolve, upon either of the High Contracting Parties under the Charter of the United Nations or under any other existing international agreements, conventions or treaties.

ARTICLE 7.

The present Treaty shall replace the Treaty of Alliance signed at Bagdad on the third day of June, one thousand nine hundred and thirty of the Christian Era, corresponding to the fourth day of Safar, one thousand three hundred and forty nine, Hijrah, which shall cease to have effect upon the entry into force of the present Treaty.

ARTICLE 8.

Should any difference arise relative to the Application or interpretation of this Treaty, and should the High Contracting Parties fail to settle such difference by direct negotiation, the difference shall be referred to the



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International Court of Justice unless the parties agree to another mode of settlement.

ARTICLE 9.

The present Treaty shall be ratified and shall come into force upon the exchange of instruments of ratification, which shall take place as soon as possible. It shall remain in force for a period of 25 years from the date of its coming into force. At any time after 20 years from the date of coming into force of this Treaty, the High Contracting Parties will, at the request of either of them, negotiate for the conclusion of a new Treaty which shall provide for the continued cooperation of the High Contracting Parties in the defence of their common interests and for the continued maintenance and protection in all circumstances of their essential communications.

At the end of 25 years, if a new treaty has not been concluded, the present Treaty shall remain in force until the expiry of one year after notice of termination has been given by one High Contracting Party to the other through the diplomatic channel.

In faith whereof the respective plenipotentiaries have signed the present Treaty and have affixed thereto their Seals.

Done in duplicate at.....

This.....

of the Christian Era

Corresponding to the.....



National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 1.

(a) The High Contracting Parties recognize the importance of air bases as an essential element in the defence of Iraq itself and of the Middle East as a whole and as a link in the essential communications of both parties. They agree moreover that, in the common interests of both of them, His Britannic Majesty must be in a position to discharge his obligations under Article 4 of the Treaty.

(b) In the event of either High Contracting Party becoming involved in war, or of a menace of hostilities, His Majesty The King of Iraq will invite His Britannic Majesty to bring immediately to Iraq the forces of all arms necessary for the effective defence of Iraq and of the Middle East as a whole, and will furnish to His Britannic Majesty on Iraqi territory all the facilities and assistance in his power, including the use of railways, rivers, ports, aerodromes and lines of communication.

(c) To maintain the Iraqi bases at Habbaniya and Shaiba at all times, whether of peace or of war, in the necessary state of operational efficiency, His Britannic Majesty will provide at these bases the necessary technical staff, installations and equipment, and subject to paragraph (d) of Article 2 below will meet the cost of such maintenance. The Joint Defence Board referred to in Article 5 of this Annexure will review from time to time the operational efficiency of other air bases in Iraq and consider any arrangements that it may be desirable to make in regard thereto.

(d) Until such time as the High Contracting Parties shall agree that the state of security in the Middle East no longer requires it, His Majesty The King of Iraq grants free access to and use of the air bases of Habbaniya and Shaiba to aircraft and operational units of the Air Forces of His Britannic Majesty. The question whether any adjustment is required in the use of these bases by these units will be reviewed from time to time, in the light of the circumstances then prevailing, by the Joint Defence Board. The



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Board will submit the recommendations to the High Contracting Parties.

(e) His Majesty The King of Iraq agrees moreover to permit aircraft of His Britannic Majesty in transit across Iraq freely to use the air bases of Habbaniya and Shaiba.

(f) The air bases of Habbaniya and Shaiba shall be used in partnership by the Royal Iraqi Air Force and such units of the Air Forces of His Britannic Majesty as may be disposed there in accordance with (c) and (d) above.

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 2

(a) His Majesty The King of Iraq will provide and defray the cost of the forces necessary for the local defence of the air bases at Habbaniya and Shaiba.

(b) Day-to-day operation of the bases and their security arrangements shall be mutually arranged between the Iraqi and British Commanding Officers, who will each retain the final responsibility for the movement of the units of his own country.

(c) The administration of the units of each country including accommodation arrangements, shall be separate except where it is decided to pool resources.

(d) His Britannic Majesty will continue as hitherto to meet the cost of the maintenance of the existing buildings and installations at the two air bases, except of those which may be transferred to His Majesty the King of Iraq in accordance with (e)below.

(e) The financial arrangements regarding the transfer of any installations, buildings etc. at the air bases which may be decided upon between the High Contracting Parties shall be the subject of separate agreement between their respective Governments.



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ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 3

His Britannic Majesty offers all appropriate facilities at R.A.F. airfields in the United Kingdom and in any British Colony or Protectorate administered by the United Kingdom as may be required by the Royal Iraqi Air Force. In particular His Britannic Majesty offers to make available to the personnel of the Royal Iraqi Air Force the facilities of the Armament Training Centres of the Royal Air Force in the Middle East.

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 4

(a) All Iraqi units at bases in Iraq or in United Kingdom and any British colony or protectorate administered by United Kingdom, whether stationed or in transit, shall be under Iraqi command.
(b) Similarly, all British units shall be under British command.

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 5

In the common defence interests of United Kingdom and Iraq a permanent joint advisory body will be set up immediately on the entry into force of this Treaty to coordinate defence matters between His Majesty's Government and the Iraqi Government within the scope of the Treaty.

This body, which will be known as the Anglo-Iraqi Joint Defence Board, will be composed of competent military representatives of the two Governments in equal numbers, and its functions will include:-

(a) The formulation of agreed plans in the strategic interests of both countries to meet any situation affecting the defence and security of Iraq and of the Middle East as a whole.
(b) Immediate consultation on the threat of war.
(c) The coordination of measures to enable the forces of either High Contracting Party to fulfil their obligations under Article 4 of the Treaty.
(d) Discussion regarding the equipment and training of the Iraqi Forces.



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## ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 6

His Majesty The King of Iraq agrees to afford, in case of need, and on request, all necessary facilities for the movement of units of His Britannic Majesty's Forces in transit across Iraq, with their supplies and equipment.

## ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 7

Subject to any modifications which the two High Contracting Parties may agree to introduce in the future, the Iraqi Government will continue to extend to the units of His Britannic Majesty's Forces disposed in Iraq in pursuance of the present Treaty, or otherwise by agreement between the High Contracting Parties, the immunities and privileges which they at present enjoy in jurisdictional and fiscal matters and the existing provisions of any local legislation affecting units of the armed forces of His Britannic Majesty in Iraq.

## ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 8

His Britannic Majesty undertakes to grant whenever they may be required by His Majesty The King of Iraq all possible facilities in the following matters, the cost of which will be met by His Majesty The King of Iraq:-

(a) Naval, military and aeronautical instruction or Iraqi officers in the United Kingdom.

(b) The provision of arms, ammunition, equipment, ships and aeroplanes of the latest available pattern for the forces of His Majesty The King of Iraq.

(c) The provision of naval, military and air force officers to serve in an advisory capacity with the forces of His Majesty The King of Iraq.



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## ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 9.

In view of the desirability of identity in training and methods between his own forces and those of His Britannic Majesty, His Majesty The King of Iraq undertakes that, should he deem it necessary to have recourse to foreign military instructors, these shall be chosen from amongst British subjects.

He further undertakes that any personnel of his forces that may be sent abroad for military training will be sent to military schools, colleges and training centres in the territories of His Britannic Majesty, provided that this shall not prevent him from sending to any other country such personnel as cannot be received in the said institutions and training centres.

He further undertakes that the armament and essential equipment of his forces shall not differ in type from those of the forces of His Britannic Majesty.

## ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 10

His Majesty the King of Iraq undertakes to grant general permission to His Britannic Majesty's ships to visit the Shatt-al-Arab on the understanding that His Majesty the King of Iraq is given prior notification of visits to Iraqi ports.



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AGREED MINUTE

The United Kingdom and Iraqi Delegations desire at the moment of signature to record in a minute certain points of interpretation of the provisions of the Treaty of Alliance upon which they are agreed.

These points are as follows:-

(i) With reference to Articles 1 and 2 of the Annexure, it is understood that:-

(1) No use may be made of these two air bases for civil aviation except on the recommendation of the Joint Defence Board. In the event of such use being so recommended, the financial provisions of Article 4 of the Annexure will be revised.

(2) His Britannic Majesty shall not be called upon to pay any charges in respect of the use of any other landing grounds in Iraq by his air forces.

(ii) With reference to Article 2(a) of the Annexure, it is understood that the present guards of the air bases will not, when disbanded and replaced by Iraqi forces as provide in this paragraph, be subject to conscription into the Iraqi forces.

(iii) With reference to paragraph (d) of Article 2 of the Annexure, it is understood that:-

1. His Majesty the King of Iraq and His Britannic Majesty will each meet the cost of supplies and services furnished to his own air forces visiting or present at the two bases.

2. The incidence of cost of any new constructions at the two bases, which the Joint Defence Board may consider necessary, will be subject to discussion between the two Governments at the appropriate time.

(iv) With reference to paragraph (e) of Article 2 of the Annexure, it is understood that:-



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1. The financial arrangements envisaged in Article 4(e) of the Annexure will take full account of the provisions of paragraph 3 of the exchange of notes between the Iraqi Prime Minister and His Majesty's High Commissioner in Iraq on 19th August 1930, embodying the separate agreement on financial questions referred to in the second exchange of notes appended to the Treaty of 30th June, 1930.

2. When the air forces of His Britannic Majesty cease to be present at the two bases, His Britannic Majesty shall be accorded facilities to dispose to the best advantage of any buildings or installations, which His Majesty the King of Iraq does not wish to take over under the provisions of Article 4(e) of the Annexure above.

3. His Britannic Majesty shall not be liable for any Iraqi rates and taxes in respect of the air bases or any buildings and installations therein.

(v) It is understood that, subject to the preceding provisions of this minute, the provisions of Article 7 of the Treaty (which state that the present Treaty replaces the Treaty signed at Bagdad on the 3rd June, 1930) mean that all letters and notes interpreting or otherwise exchanged in 1930 or 1931 in connexion with the Treaty of 1930 are also replaced but without prejudice to any financial obligations which have already accrued under the Treaty of 1930 and any such letters or notes.



National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

Suggested phrasing for Exchange of Letters on the subject of Experts.

On the occasion of the signature of the Renewed Treaty of Alliance between Great Britain and Iraq, I have the honour to assure Your Excellency that, with a view to assisting the Iraqi Government in their desire to carry out extensive plans of economic and social development, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom will continue to do all in their power to meet the requests of the Iraqi Government for the services of any experts or officials with technical qualifications of whom the Iraqi Government may stand in need.



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Enclosure 2 to Circular Despatch 2 to 96

TOP SECRET.

F. 2550/7.

5 FEB 1948 Minister's Dept.

MEMORANDUM.

MA/1/3

1. In the current series of talks held in Baghdad with the Iraqi Prime Minister to examine the possibility of revision of the 1930 Treaty of Alliance with Iraq, the United Kingdom negotiators have had four major objectives.

(a) The right to maintain the bases of Habbaniyah and Shaibah with British personnel in a state of complete efficiency.

(b) The right to station operational units at these bases in peace time.

(c) The right to free passage of aircraft in transit at any time.

(d) The right to the movement of United Kingdom forces across Iraq in case of need.

It was also clearly understood on the United Kingdom side

(e) that no treaty was of any value unless it was of such a nature that it would endure and that it would form the basis of a structure which could later embrace the whole of the Middle East.

2. From the outset it was apparent that the Iraqi Prime Minister felt it essential, for political reasons, to make a clear distinction between war and peace. In the case of the former he agreed at once to the United Kingdom proposals; in the case of the latter he wished it to be laid down in the treaty that British units were only to

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National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

be present at the bases at the express invitation and discretion of the King of Iraq. In the opinion of the United Kingdom negotiators the Prime Minister is being actuated by his desire to exhibit his power to the people of Iraq, and by his feeling that only such a clause would put an end to criticism by other Arab states that Iraq is still a "Colonial country"; with the latter point is connected his hope to sign a treaty of such a nature that other Arab states could later be induced to acquiesce in its terms, and to sign similar treaties with the United Kingdom.

3. It became apparent at an early stage in the discussions that, while agreement could be reached on points (a) (c) and (d) in paragraph 1 above, the main difficulty would lie in (b). It also became clear that, as regards (e), the Prime Minister's views as to what constituted an enduring basis for a treaty differed from those of the United Kingdom negotiators who desired an arrangement providing definitely for all United Kingdom military requirements. The Prime Minister, however, insisted that, while he shared their views on the military situation, if he agreed to the form of words proposed by the United Kingdom criticism of the new treaty would begin again almost at once, even if he were to succeed in persuading the Majlis to accept it.

4. The position now reached in the conversations is that, subject to some qualifications, United Kingdom Representatives have attained three of the four major objectives described in paragraph 1.

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In the case of the fourth (paragraph 1(b) above) it has proved impossible to move the Iraqi Prime Minister from his decision that the presence of operational units in peace time must be at the option of the King of Iraq, and he insists on "may invite" as the key phrase. The question therefore which is now under consideration is whether to insist on an unconditional provision in the treaty or to rely on a permissive provision and the goodwill of the Iraq Government.

5. The preliminary United Kingdom draft for the revised Treaty of Alliance, with Annexure, is appended.

Commonwealth Relations Office.
10th December, 1947.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

DRAFT OF A REVISED ANGLO-IRAQI TREATY OF ALLIANCE.

Treaty of Alliance between His Britannic Majesty in respect of the United Kingdom and His Majesty The King of Iraq.

---

His Majesty The King of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas (hereinafter called His Britannic Majesty)

and His Majesty the King of Iraq;

Desiring to consolidate the friendship and to maintain and perpetuate the relations of good understanding between their respective countries;

Considering that Article 11 of the Treaty of Alliance, signed at Bagdad on the thirtieth day of June, one thousand nine hundred and thirty of the Christian Era, corresponding to the fourth day of Safar, one thousand three hundred and forty nine, Hijrah, provides that at any time after twenty years from the date of the coming into force of that Treaty, the High Contracting Parties would, at the request of either of them, conclude a new Treaty which should provide for the continued maintenance and protection in all circumstances of the essential communications of His Britannic Majesty;

Being agreed that, although the said period of twenty years has not yet expired, it is now desirable, for the above-mentioned purpose and for the other purposes of the existing Treaty, to replace that Treaty by a new Treaty of Alliance concluded on terms of complete freedom, equality and independence;

Have accordingly appointed as their plenipotentiaries H.M. The King etc. (hereinafter referred to as (His Britannic Majesty)

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A. B.

H.M. The King of Iraq

C. D.

who, having exhibited their full powers, found in good and due form

Have agreed as follows:-

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ARTICLE 1.

There shall be perpetual peace and friendship between His Britannic Majesty and His Majesty The King of Iraq.

A close alliance shall continue between the High Contracting Parties in consecration of their friendship, their cordial understanding and their good relations, and there shall be full and frank consultation between them in all matters of foreign policy which may affect their common interests.

Each of the High Contracting Parties undertakes not to adopt in foreign countries an attitude which is inconsistent with the alliance or might create difficulties for the other party thereto.

ARTICLE 2.

Should any dispute between Iraq and a third State produce a situation which involves the risk of a rupture with that State, the High Contracting Parties will concert together with a view to the settlement of the said dispute by peaceful means in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of any other international obligations which may be applicable to the case.

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ARTICLE 3.

Should either High Contracting Party, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2 of the present Treaty, become engaged in war, the other High Contracting Party will, subject always to the provisions of Article 4 of the present Treaty, immediately come to his aid as a measure of collective defence. In the event of an imminent menace of hostilities the High Contracting Parties will immediately concert together the necessary measures of defense. The assistance afforded by His Majesty the King of Iraq in either circumstance will include the facilities referred to in the Annexure to this Treaty.

ARTICLE 4.

Nothing in the present Treaty is intended to or shall in any way prejudice the rights and obligations which devolve, or may devolve, upon either of the High Contracting Parties under the Charter of the United Nations or under any other international agreements, conventions or treaties.

ARTICLE 5.

The air base sites at Habbaniya and Shaiba are an integral and sovereign part of the Kingdom of Iraq. His Britannic Majesty agrees to forego the exclusive rights hitherto enjoyed by the forces of His Britannic Majesty at these bases.

It is agreed that the bases shall be used for the common benefit of both parties as provided in the Annexure to this Treaty.

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ARTICLE 6.

The present Treaty shall replace the Treaty of Alliance signed at Bagdad on the third day of June, one thousand nine hundred and thirty of the Christian Era, corresponding to the fourth day of Safar, one thousand three hundred and forty nine, Hijrah, which shall cease to have effect upon the entry into force of the present Treaty.

ARTICLE 7.

Should any difference arise relative to the interpretation of this Treaty, and should the High Contracting Parties fail to settle such difference by direct negotiation, the difference shall be referred to the International Court of Justice unless the parties agree to another mode of settlement.

ARTICLE 8.

The present Treaty shall be ratified and shall come into force upon the exchange of instruments of ratification, which shall take place as soon as possible. It shall remain in force for a period of 25 years from the date of its coming into force. At any time after 20 years from the date of coming into force of this Treaty, the High Contracting Parties will, at the request of either of them, conclude a new Treaty which shall provide for the continued cooperation of the High Contracting Parties in the defence of their common interests and for the continued maintenance and protection in all circumstances of their essential communications. In case of disgareement in this matter the difference will be submitted to the Permanent Court of International Justice.

/In

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

In faith whereof the respective plenipotentiaries have signed the present Treaty and have affixed thereto their Seals.

Done in duplicate at.....

This.....

of the Christian Era.....

Corresponding to the.....

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 1.

(a) The High Contracting Parties recognize the importance of air bases as an essential element in the defence of Iraq itself and of the Middle East as a whole and as a link in the essential communications of either party. They agree moreover that, in the common interests of both High Contracting Parties, His Britannic Majesty must be in a position to discharge his obligations under Article 3 of the Treaty.

(b) In the event of either party becoming involved in war, or of the menace of hostilities, His Majesty The King of Iraq will invite His Britannic Majesty to bring immediately to Iraq the forces of all arms necessary for the effective defence of Iraq and of the Middle East as a whole, and will furnish to His Britannic Majesty on Iraqi territory all the facilities and assistance in his power, including the use of railways, rivers, ports, aerodromes and lines of communication.

(c) In time of peace His Majesty The King of Iraq has decided to invite His Britannic Majesty to dispose at Habbaniya and Shaiba the technical staff, installations and equipment necessary to ensure the adequate maintenance of the bases. For his part His Britannic Majesty guarantees to maintain the bases in the necessary state of operational efficiency.

(d) Until such time as the High Contracting Parties shall agree that the state of security in the Middle East no longer requires it, His Majesty The King of Iraq grants free access to the air bases to aircraft and operational units of the Royal Air Force. The question whether any adjustment is required in the utilisation of the bases by these units will be reviewed from time to time in the light of the circumstances then prevailing by the Joint Defence Board, to be set up in accordance with the provisions of this annexure. The Board will submit the recommendations to the High Contracting Parties.

/(e)

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

(e) His Majesty The King of Iraq agrees moreover to grant free access to the bases to aircraft of His Britannic Majesty in transit across Iraq.

(f) The air bases at Habbaniya and Shaiba shall be used in partnership by the Royal Iraqi Air Force and such units of the Royal Air Force as may be disposed there in accordance with (c) and (d) above.

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 2.

His Britannic Majesty offers all appropriate facilities at R.A.F. airfields in British territory as may be required by the Royal Iraqi Air Force. In particular His Britannic Majesty offers to make available to the personnel of the Royal Iraqi Air Force the facilities of the Armament Training Centres of the Royal Air Force in the Middle East.

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 3.

(a) All Iraqi units at bases in Iraqi or British territory, whether stationed or in transit, shall be under Iraqi command.

(b) Similarly, all British units shall be under British command.

ANNEXURE- ARTICLE 4.

(a) His Majesty The King of Iraq will provide the forces necessary for the local defence of the air bases at Habbaniya and Shaiba.

(b) Day-to-day operation of the bases and their security arrangements shall be mutually arranged between the Iraqi and British Commanding Officers, who will each retain the final responsibility for the movement of the units of his own country.

/(c)

Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

(c) The administration of each component, including accommodation arrangements, shall be separate except where it is decided to pool resources.

(d) His Majesty's Government will continue as hitherto to meet the cost of the maintenance of the two air bases.

(e) The financial arrangements regarding the transfer of any installations, buildings etc. at the air bases which may be decided upon between the High Contracting Parties shall be the subject of separate agreement between their respective Governments.

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 5.

In the common defence interests of Great Britain and Iraq a permanent joint advisory body will be set up immediately on the entry into force of this Treaty to coordinate defence matters between His Majesty's Government and the Iraqi Government within the scope of the Treaty.

This body, which will be known as the Anglo-Iraqi Joint Defence Board, will be composed of competent military representatives of the two Governments in equal numbers, and its functions will include:-

(a) The formulation of agreed plans in the strategic interests of both countries to meet any situation affecting the defence and security of Iraq and of the Middle East as a whole.

(b) Immediate consultation on the threat of war.

(c) The coordination of measures to enable the forces of His Britannic Majesty to come to the aid of His Majesty the King of Iraq as an Ally.

/(d)

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

(d) Discussion regarding the equipment and training of the Iraqi Forces.

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 6.

His Majesty The King of Iraq agrees to afford, in case of need, and on request, all necessary facilities for the movement of units of His Britannic Majesty's Forces in transit across Iraq, with their supplies and equipment.

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 7.

Subject to any modifications which the two High Contracting Parties may agree to introduce in the future, the Iraqi Government will continue to extend to the units of His Britannnic Majesty's Forces disposed in Iraq in pursuance of the present Treaty, or otherwise by agreement between the High Contracting Parties, the immunities and privileges which they at present enjoy in jurisdictional and fiscal matters.

The existing provisions of any local legislation affecting units of the armed forces of His Britannic Majesty in Iraq shall also continue.

ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 8.

His britannic Majesty undertakes to grant whenever they may be required by His Majesty The King of Iraq all possible facilities in the following matters, the cost of which will be met by His Majesty The King of Iraq:-

(a) Naval, military and aeronautical instruction of Iraqi officers in the United Kingdom.

(b) The provision of arms, ammunition, equipment, ships and aeroplanes of the latest available pattern for the forces of His Majesty The King of Iraq.

(c) The provision of British naval, military and air force

/Officers

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

officers to serve in an advisory capacity with the forces of His Majesty The King of Iraq.

## ANNEXURE - ARTICLE 9.

In view of the desirability of identity in training and methods between the Iraqi and British armies, His Majesty The King of Iraq undertakes that, should he deem it necessary to have recourse to foreign military instructors, these shall be chosen from amongst British subjects.

He further undertakes that any personnel of his forces that may be sent abroad for military training will be sent to military schools, colleges and training centres in the territories of His Britannic Majesty, provided that this shall not prevent him from sending to any other country such personnel as cannot be received in the said institutions and training centres.

He further undertakes that the armament and essential equipment of his forces shall not differ in type from those of the forces of His Britannic Majesty.

## Suggested phrasing for Exchange of Letters on the subject of Experts.

On the occasion of the signature of the Renewed Treaty of Alliance between Great Britain and Iraq, I have the honour to assure Your Excellency that, with a view to assisting the Iraqi Government in their desire to carry out extensive plans of economic and social development, His Majesty's Government will continue to do all in their power to meet the requests of the Iraqi Government for the services of any experts or officials with technical qualifications of whom the Iraqi Government may stand in need.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

PRIME MINISTER'S DEPT.
2 - FEB 1948
No. M.44/1/3.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Circular despatch D. No. 9

Commonwealth Relations Office,
Downing Street, S.W.1.
23 January, 1948.

Sir,

With reference to my circular despatch D. No.4 of 14th January, I have the honour to transmit copies of the text of the Treaty of Alliance with Iraq signed at Portsmouth on 15th January, 1948.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble servant,

P. C. Gordon Walker

(for the Secretary of State).

HE PRIME MINISTER OF
THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

2 - FEB 1948

COPY (WITH ORIG. ENCL.): E.A. (PREV. CORR.)

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

M41 1/3.

Enclosure to Circular Despatch of Dec 9.

Iraq No. 1 (1948)

# TREATY OF ALLIANCE

between

His Majesty in respect of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and His Majesty the King of Iraq

[with Annexure and Exchanges of Letters]

Portsmouth, 15th January, 1948

[The Treaty has not been ratified by His Majesty]

*Presented by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to Parliament by Command of His Majesty*

LONDON
HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE
THREEPENCE NET

Cmd. 7309

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

# Treaty of Alliance between His Majesty in respect of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and His Majesty the King of Iraq

*Portsmouth, 15th January, 1948*

His Majesty the King of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas and His Majesty the King of Iraq;

Animated by the most sincere desire to consolidate the friendship and good relations which exist between them and to establish these relations on foundations more suited to the development of this friendship;

Desiring to conclude a new treaty of alliance with the object of consolidating the friendly relations which exist between them and of strengthening by co-operation and mutual assistance the contribution which each of them will be able to make to the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the provisions and principles of the Charter of the United Nations(1):

Have accordingly appointed as their plenipotentiaries,

His Majesty the King of Great Britain, Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas (hereinafter referred to as His Britannic Majesty):

For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:

The Right Honourable Ernest Bevin, M.P., his Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs;
The Right Honourable A. V. Alexander, M.P., Minister of Defence;
The Right Honourable A. Creech Jones, M.P., Secretary of State for the Colonies;
The Right Honourable the Viscount Hall, First Lord of the Admiralty;

His Majesty the King of Iraq:

His Excellency Saiyid Saleh Jabr, Prime Minister of Iraq;
His Excellency Nuri Pasha Said, President of the Senate and former Prime Minister of Iraq;
His Excellency Saiyid Taufiq Suwaidi, Senator and former Prime Minister of Iraq;
His Excellency Dr. Fadhil al Jamali, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iraq;
His Excellency Colonel Shakir al Wadi, Minister of Defence of Iraq;

Who, having exhibited their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows:—

### Article 1

There shall be perpetual peace and friendship between His Britannic Majesty and His Majesty the King of Iraq.

(1) "Treaty Series No. 67 (1946)," Cmd. 7015.



A close alliance shall continue between the High Contracting Parties in consecration of their friendship, their cordial understanding and their good relations.

Each of the High Contracting Parties undertakes not to adopt in foreign countries an attitude which is inconsistent with the alliance or might create difficulties for the other party thereto.

### Article 2

Should any dispute between either High Contracting Party and a third party produce a situation which involves the risk of a rupture with that State, the High Contracting Parties will concert together with a view to the settlement of the said dispute by peaceful means in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and of any other international obligations which may be applicable to the case.

### Article 3

Should either High Contracting Party, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2 of the present Treaty, become engaged in war, the other High Contracting Party will, subject always to the provisions of Article 4 of the present Treaty, immediately come to his aid as a measure of collective defence.

In the event of an imminent menace of hostilities the High Contracting Parties will immediately concert together the necessary measures of defence.

### Article 4

Nothing in the present Treaty is intended to or shall in any way prejudice the rights and obligations which devolve, or may devolve, upon either of the High Contracting Parties under the Charter of the United Nations or under any other existing international agreements, conventions or treaties.

### Article 5

The present Treaty, of which the Annexure is an integral part, shall replace the Treaty of Alliance signed at Bagdad on the third day of June, one thousand nine hundred and thirty(2) of the Christian Era, corresponding to the fourth day of Safar, one thousand three hundred and forty-nine Hajrah, together with the Annexure, all letters and notes interpreting or otherwise exchanged in 1930 or 1931 in connexion therewith, and the Railway Agreement signed at Bagdad on 31st March, 1936,(3) which shall cease to have effect upon the entry into force of the present Treaty. The above is without prejudice to any financial obligations which have already accrued under the Treaty of 1930, any such letters or notes and the Railway Agreement of 1936.

### Article 6

Should any difference arise relative to the application or interpretation of this Treaty, and should the High Contracting Parties fail to settle such difference by direct negotiation, the difference shall be referred to the International Court of Justice unless the parties agree to another mode of settlement

(2) "Treaty Series No. 15 (1931)," Cmd. 3797.
(3) "Treaty Series No. 28 (1936)," Cmd. 5282.

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ARTICLE 7

The present Treaty shall be ratified and shall come into force upon the exchange of instruments of ratification, which shall take place as soon as possible. It shall remain in force for a period of 20 years from the date of its coming into force. At any time after 15 years from the date of coming into force of this Treaty, the High Contracting Parties may, at the request of either of them, negotiate for its revision, which shall provide for the continued co-operation of the High Contracting Parties in the defence of their common interests. The period of 15 years shall be reduced if a complete system of security agreements under Article 43 of the Charter of the United Nations is concluded before the expiry of 15 years.

At the end of 20 years, if the present Treaty has not been revised, it shall remain in force until the expiry of one year after notice of termination has been given by one High Contracting Party to the other through the diplomatic channel.

In faith whereof the respective plenipotentiaries have signed the present Treaty.

Done, in duplicate, at Portsmouth, this 15th day of January, 1948, of the Christian Era, corresponding to the 4th Rabi'a al Awwal 1367 Hijra.

(Signed) ERNEST BEVIN.
A. V. ALEXANDER.
A. CREECH JONES.
HALL.
SALEH JABR.
NOURY SAID.
T. SWAIDY.
MOHD. FADHEL JAMALI.
S. WAIDI.



ANNEXURE

ARTICLE 1

(a) The High Contracting Parties recognise the importance of air bases as an essential element in the defence of Iraq itself and of international security and as a link in the essential communications of both parties. They agree moreover that, in the common interests of both of them, His Britannic Majesty must be in a position to discharge his obligations under Article 3 of the Treaty.

(b) In the event of either High Contracting Party becoming involved in war, or of a menace of hostilities, His Majesty the King of Iraq will invite His Britannic Majesty to bring immediately to Iraq the necessary forces of all arms and will furnish to His Britannic Majesty on Iraqi territory all the facilities and assistance in his power, including the use of railways, rivers, ports, aerodromes and lines of communication on the same financial terms as those applicable to the forces of His Majesty the King of Iraq.

(c) To maintain the Iraqi bases at Habbaniya and Shaiba at all times, whether of peace or of war, in the necessary state of operational efficiency, His Britannic Majesty will provide at these bases the necessary technical staff, installations and equipment, and subject to paragraph (e) of Article 2 below will meet the cost of such maintenance. No use shall be made of these two air bases for civil aviation except on the recommendation of the Joint Defence Board referred to in Article 5 of this Annexure. In the event of such use being so recommended, the financial provisions of Article 2 of this Annexure will be revised.

(d) Until such time as Peace Treaties have entered into force with all ex-enemy countries, His Majesty the King of Iraq grants to operational units of the Air Forces of His Britannic Majesty free access to and use of the two air bases referred to in (c) above, it being understood that the Peace Treaties are to be deemed to be fully in force when the Allied Forces are withdrawn from the territories of all ex-enemy States.

After such time as the Peace Treaties have fully entered into force, His Majesty the King of Iraq may invite such units to use the bases on the advice of the Joint Defence Board in the light of circumstances then prevailing.

(e) His Majesty the King of Iraq agrees to permit aircraft of His Britannic Majesty in transit across Iraq freely to use the air bases of Habbaniya and Shaiba.

(f) The air bases of Habbaniya and Shaiba shall be used jointly and in co-operation by the Royal Iraqi Air Force and such units of the Air Forces of His Britannic Majesty as may be disposed there.

(g) His Britannic Majesty shall not be called upon to pay any charges in respect of the use of any other landing grounds in Iraq by his air forces.

ARTICLE 2

(a) His Majesty the King of Iraq will provide at his expense the forces necessary for the guarding of the air bases at Habbaniya and Shaiba.

(b) Day-to-day operation of the bases and their security arrangements shall be mutually arranged between the Iraqi and British Commanding Officers, who will each retain the final responsibility for the movement of the units of his own country.

(c) The administration of the units of each country, including accommodation arrangements, shall be separate except where it is decided to pool resources.



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(*d*) His Majesty the King of Iraq and His Britannic Majesty will each meet the cost of supplies and services furnished to his own air forces visiting or present at the two bases.

(*e*) His Majesty the King of Iraq will pay the cost of maintenance of all buildings and installations at the two air bases exclusively occupied by or erected for the Iraqi forces. Each of the High Contracting Parties will pay the cost of new buildings provided for the sole use of his own forces.

(*f*) The allocation of existing installations and buildings at the air bases will be decided by the Joint Defence Board. His Majesty the King of Iraq may purchase the installations and buildings allotted to the Iraqi forces at a fair valuation. On the final evacuation of British forces, the Iraqi Government shall either themselves take over such buildings and permanent structures at the bases as have not previously been purchased at a fair valuation having regard to the use to which they have been put, or shall afford such facilities as may reasonably be necessary to enable the Government of the United Kingdom to dispose thereof to the best advantage.

(*g*) His Britannic Majesty shall not be liable for any Iraqi rates and taxes in respect of the air bases or any buildings and installations therein

ARTICLE 3

In order that the air forces of the High Contracting Parties should attain the necessary efficiency in co-operation with each other—

(i) His Britannic Majesty offers all appropriate facilities at Royal Air Force air fields in the United Kingdom and in any British colony or protectorate administered by the United Kingdom as may be required by the Royal Iraqi Air Force. In particular, His Britannic Majesty offers to make available to the personnel of the Royal Iraqi Air Force the facilities of the armament training centres of the Royal Air Force in the Middle East.

(ii) His Britannic Majesty will make available operational units of his forces to engage in joint training operations with the Iraqi Air Forces for a sufficient period in each year.

(iii) His Majesty the King of Iraq will make available facilities at air bases in Iraq necessary for the purposes of this joint training.

ARTICLE 4

(*a*) All Iraqi units at bases in Iraq or in the United Kingdom and any British colony or protectorate administered by the United Kingdom whether stationed or in transit, shall be under Iraqi command.

(*b*) Similarly, all British units shall be under British command.

ARTICLE 5

In the common defence interests of the United Kingdom and Iraq a permanent joint advisory body will be set up immediately on the entry into force of this Treaty to co-ordinate defence matters between the Government of the United Kingdom and the Iraqi Government within the scope of this Treaty.

This body, which will be known as the Anglo-Iraqi Joint Defence Board, will be composed of competent military representatives of the two Governments in equal numbers, and its functions will include—

(*a*) The formulation of agreed plans in the strategic interests common to both countries,

(*b*) Immediate consultation on the threat of war,



(*c*) The co-ordination of measures to enable the forces of either High Contracting Party to fulfil their obligations under Article 3 of the Treaty,

(*d*) Consultation regarding the training of the Iraqi Forces and the provision of equipment for them. The Joint Defence Board shall submit annual reports thereon and recommendations to the Governments of the two High Contracting Parties,

(*e*) Arrangements regarding the joint training operations referred to in Article 3 of this Annexure.

ARTICLE 6

His Majesty the King of Iraq agrees to afford, in case of need, and on request, all necessary facilities for the movement of units of His Britannic Majesty's Forces in transit across Iraq, with their supplies and equipment, on the same financial terms as those applicable to the forces of His Majesty the King of Iraq.

ARTICLE 7

Subject to any modifications which the two High Contracting Parties may agree to introduce in the future, the Iraqi Government will continue to extend to the units of His Britannic Majesty's Forces disposed in Iraq in pursuance of the present Treaty, or otherwise by agreement between the High Contracting Parties, the immunities and privileges which they at present enjoy in jurisdictional and fiscal matters and the existing provisions of any local legislation affecting units of the armed forces of His Britannic Majesty in Iraq.

The privileges and immunities to be extended to units and personnel of the Royal Iraqi Air Force visiting or present in British territory shall be defined on a reciprocal basis.

ARTICLE 8

His Britannic Majesty undertakes to grant whenever they may be required by His Majesty the King of Iraq all possible facilities in the following matters, the cost of which will be met by His Majesty the King of Iraq:—

(*a*) Naval, military and aeronautical instruction of Iraqi officers in the United Kingdom.

(*b*) The provision for the forces of His Majesty the King of Iraq of arms, ammunition, ships and aeroplanes of modern pattern such as are in current use by the forces of His Britannic Majesty on a priority which, having regard to the relative needs of each force, shall treat both forces equally.

(*c*) The provision of naval, military and air force officers to serve as instructors with the forces of His Majesty the King of Iraq.

ARTICLE 9

In view of the desirability of identity in training and methods between his own forces and those of His Britannic Majesty, His Majesty the King of Iraq undertakes that, should he deem it necessary to have recourse to foreign military instructors, these shall be chosen from amongst British subjects.

He further undertakes that any personnel of his forces that may be sent abroad for military training will be sent to military schools, colleges and training centres in the territories of His Britannic Majesty, provided that this shall not prevent him from sending to any other country such personnel as cannot be received in the said institutions and training centres, or for courses not available in those territories.

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He further undertakes that the armament and essential equipment of his forces shall not differ in type from those of the forces of His Britannic Majesty.

ARTICLE 10

His Majesty the King of Iraq undertakes to grant general permission to His Britannic Majesty's ships to visit the Shatt-al-Arab on the understanding that His Majesty the King of Iraq is given prior notification of visits to Iraqi ports.

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## EXCHANGES OF LETTERS

### No. 1

*Mr. Ernest Bevin to His Excellency Saiyid Saleh Jabr*

*Portsmouth,*
*15th January,* 1948

Your Excellency,

ON the occasion of the signature of the Treaty of Alliance between Great Britain and Iraq, I have the honour to assure Your Excellency that, with a view to assisting the Iraqi Government in their desire to carry out extensive plans of economic and social development, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom will do all in their power to meet the requests of the Iraqi Government for the services of any experts or officials with technical qualifications of whom the Iraqi Government may stand in need.

I have, &c.
ERNEST BEVIN.

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### No. 2

*His Excellency Saiyid Saleh Jabr to Mr. Ernest Bevin*

*Portsmouth,*
*15th January,* 1948

Your Excellency,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letter of to-day's date which reads as follows:—

[As in No. 1]

I have, &c.
SALEH JABR.

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### No. 3

*Mr. Ernest Bevin to His Excellency Saiyid Saleh Jabr*

*Portsmouth,*
*15th January,* 1948

Your Excellency,

IN connexion with the Treaty signed by us to-day I desire on behalf of my Government to inform you that the military installations in the Basra area, built by the British forces during the War of 1939–45, specified below will be handed over free of charge to the Iraqi Government.



The following are the installations in question:—

(1) Former British and Indian military hospitals in the Shaiba area known as Camp 57 and Camp 67.
(2) Shaiba Water Supply Services, including Filtration Plant and Distribution System.
(3) Shaiba Electric Power Station and Distribution System.
(4) Telecommunications Systems in Shaiba, Ma'qil and 'Ashar area.

I have, &c.
ERNEST BEVIN.

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### No. 4

*His Excellency Saiyid Saleh Jabr to Mr. Ernest Bevin*

*Portsmouth,*
*15th January,* 1948

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letter of to-day's date concerning certain military installations in the Basra area, which the Government of the United Kingdom intend to hand over free of cost to the Iraqi Government.

I have, &c.
SALEH JABR.

---

### No. 5

*His Excellency Saiyid Saleh Jabr to Mr. Ernest Bevin*

*Portsmouth,*
*15th January,* 1948

Your Excellency,

WITH reference to Article 4 of the Treaty signed to-day, I desire on behalf of my Government to state that the Covenant of the League of Arab States signed on 22nd March, 1945, and the Saadabad Pact between Iran, Iraq, Turkey and Afghanistan signed on 8th July, 1937, are included amongst the existing International Agreements to which this Article refers and are Agreements to which in this connexion my Government attaches particular importance.

I have, &c.
SALEH JABR.

---

### No. 6

*Mr. Ernest Bevin to His Excellency Saiyid Saleh Jabr*

*Portsmouth,*
*15th January,* 1948

Your Excellency,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your letter of to-day's date which reads as follows:—

[As in No. 5]

I have, &c.
ERNEST BEVIN.

14521 Wt. 1520/2623 1/48 P.O.P. 34807

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COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

Circular Despatch D No. 4

Commonwealth Relations Office,
Downing Street.
14 January, 1948.

Sir,

With reference to my circular telegram G No. 1 of 10th January, I have the honour to enclose copies of the draft of revised Treaty of Alliance with Iraq, as initialled in London 10th January.

2. It is hoped to sign the Treaty on 15th January and to publish the text shortly thereafter.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble servant,

P. C. Gordon Walker

(for the Secretary of State)

Duplicate copy received, taken on file

THE PRIME MINISTER OF
THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

21 JAN 1948

COPY (WITH ORIG. ENC.) : E.A. (PREV.CORRES.)

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Circular Despatch D. No. 3

TOP SECRET.

PRIME MINISTER'S DEPT.
19 JAN 1948
No. M41113.

Commonwealth Relations Office,

Downing Street.

8 January, 1948.

Sir,

With reference to Mr. Noel-Baker's Circular despatch D. No. 96 of the 15th December, 1947, I have the honour to enclose a copy of the United Kingdom re-draft of the revised Treaty of Alliance with Iraq, which was given to the Iraqi Delegation to the London discussions on 7th January. It is hoped that agreement may be reached at a very early date.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble servant,

P. C. Gordon Walker

(for the Secretary of State.)

20 JAN 1948

COPY WITH ORIG ENC - E.A. (Copy has not been sent to your Minister).

THE PRIME MINISTER OF
THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

National Archives of Australia NAA: A461, H350/1/3

TRADE AGREEMENTS DEPT.
23 DEC 1947
No. M.41/1/3

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Circular despatch D. No. 96

TOP SECRET

Commonwealth Relations Office,
Downing Street.

15 December, 1947.

Sir,

With reference to my telegram of the 19th November D. No. 897, I have the honour to enclose a memorandum on the secret and informal discussions which have been held in Baghdad to examine the possibility of revision of the 1930 Treaty of Alliance with Iraq. Annexed to the memorandum is the preliminary text of the United Kingdom draft of the revised Treaty of Alliance which is being used as the basis of discussion during these talks.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble servant,

Philip Noel-Baker

THE PRIME MINISTER OF
THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

24 DEC 1947

COPY & ORIG. ENCL. E.A.

Dupl copy recd + retained on file

Fyc

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